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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicant : Kiyonori SEKIGUCHI

Group Art Unit : 2174

Appl. No. : 09/765,394

Examiner : Sy D. LUU

Filed : January 22, 2001

Confirmation No. : 9411

For : APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR REMOTELY OPERATING A
PLURALITY OF INFORMATION DEVICES CONNECTED TO A
NETWORK PROVIDED WITH PLUG-AND-PLAY FUNCTION

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statement that was filed on March 11, 2003, Applicant hereby submits a copy of a Decision of Rejection from the Japanese Patent Office that was mailed on April 20, 2004, with respect to patent family member Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-013706, in which the Japanese Patent Examiner cited the following documents:

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 11-328081, which was published on November 30, 1999, together with an English language Abstract of the same; and

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 9-116985, which was published on May 2, 1997, together with an English language Abstract of the same.

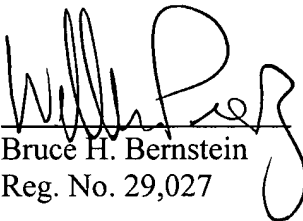
The category of relevance, pertinent portions, and claims to which each document is relevant, as ascertained by the Japanese Examiner applying Japanese rules to the Japanese claims are set forth in the Decision of Rejection.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted documents are attached hereto and are listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. A copy of the Decision of Rejection and an English language translation thereof are also enclosed. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to the Applicant with the next official communication in the present application.

Furthermore, Applicant certifies that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement. Further, since prosecution in the present application has been closed, the fee of \$180.00 set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17 (p) that is required to ensure consideration of the submitted material is enclosed.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kiyonori SEKIGUCHI


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June 24, 2004
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Application No.
09/765,394

Group
2174

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DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.